CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network,

2   comprising:

3   a)   receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery supply chain

4   utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery products by the

5   machinery outlets;

6   b)   generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering machinery

7   products from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;

8   c)   transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain

9   utilizing the network;

10   d)   transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply chain

11   utilizing the network; and

12   e)   forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of

2   machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.

1   3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery

2   outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based

3   interface.

1   4.   The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor

2   and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,
2   and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

1 7.   A system for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
2 a)   logic for receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery
3   supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery by the
4   machinery outlets;
5 b)   logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering
6   machinery from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;
7 c)   logic for transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery
8   supply chain utilizing the network;
9 d)   logic for transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply
10   chain utilizing the network; and
11 e)   logic for forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of
2   machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery
2   outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based
3   interface.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor
2   and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.

1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,
2   and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

1   13.   A computer program product for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a

2   network, comprising:

3   a)   computer code for receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a

4   machinery supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of

5   machinery by the machinery outlets;

6   b)   computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for

7   ordering machinery from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;

8   c)   computer code for transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the

9   machinery supply chain utilizing the network;

10   d)   computer code for transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery

11   supply chain utilizing the network; and

12   e)   computer code for forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the

13   data.

1   14.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is parsed to match

2   each of a plurality of machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.

1   15.   The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the data is made accessible

2   to the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a

3   network-based interface.

1   16.   The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the data is accessible to the

2   machinery distributor and the machinery supplier only after verification of an

3   identity thereof.

1   17.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the

2   Internet.

1   18.   The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the machinery outlets, the

2   machinery distributor, and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.